

Application No. 09/527,028

Docket No.: 20198-00053

LISTING OF CLAIMS

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1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A single reagent for the simultaneous determination of total leucocytes, and basophile polymorphonuclear leucocytes, and for the measurement of hemoglobin in a sample of blood, said reagent comprising:

- a buffer suitable to adjust and maintain the pH to a value lower than 3;
- at least one cationic detergent;
- a nitrogenous compound; and further comprising
- the absence of cyanic compounds, ~~and~~
- ~~the absence of nonionic detergents.~~

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The single reagent of claim [[1]] 12, wherein said buffer adjusts the pH to a value of 2.4.

15. (Currently amended) The single reagent of claim [[1]] 12, wherein said buffer is a multi-component mixture selected from the group of mixtures consisting of:

- potassium chloride plus hydrochloric acid,
- tartaric acid plus sodium hydroxide,
- citric acid plus sodium hydroxide,
- potassium hydrogen phthalate plus hydrochloric acid,
- citric acid plus disodium hydrogen phosphate, and
- boric acid plus citric acid plus potassium dihydrogen phosphate.

16. (Currently amended) The single reagent of claim [[1]] 12, wherein said detergent is selected from the group consisting of primary amines, acetates of fatty amines, hydrochlorides of fatty amines, quaternary ammonium salts, trimethylethylammonium bromide, and amides of cyclized diethylenetriamine.

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17. (Currently amended) The single reagent of claim [[1]] 12, wherein said detergent comprises amides of substituted diamines wherein said substituted diamines are cationized by a compound selected from the group consisting of ethyl sulfate, diethanolaminopropylamine, and diethylaminopropylamide.
18. (Currently amended) The single reagent of claim [[1]] 12, wherein said nitrogenous compound is a thiourea.
19. (Currently amended) The single reagent of claim 18, wherein said thiourea is 1,3-dimethyl-2-thiourea.
20. (Currently amended) The single reagent of claim [[1]] 12 further comprising at least one inorganic salt.
21. (Previously presented) The single reagent of claim 20, wherein said at least one inorganic salt is an alkali metal salt.
22. (Previously presented) The single reagent of claim 20, wherein said at least one inorganic salt is a chloride or sulfate of sodium or potassium.
23. (Currently amended) The single reagent of claim [[1]] 12, wherein said detergent is present at a concentration of 0.2 - 20 g/l and the nitrogenous compound is present at a concentration of 0.1-10 g/l.
24. (Currently amended) The single reagent of claim [[1]] 12 comprising:
5 - 10 g/l potassium chloride;
0.5 - 3 g/l 1,3-dimethyl-2-thiourea;
0.5 - 5 g/l dodecyltrimethylammonium chloride; and
1.0 - 10 g/l potassium hydrogen phosphate plus hydrochloric acid.
25. (Cancelled)

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